

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3621

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 7102

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, EAGR

SUBJECT: US/GDR GRAIN TALKS

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND GAVE BEIL'S WASHINGTON
VISIT EXTENSIVE COVERAGE NOVEMBER 12, DEVOTING TWO
PAGE 2 ARTICLES TO THE VISIT AND ITS RESULTS.
INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXTS FOLLOWS:

"USA/GDR ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FORMED. DR. GERHARD BEIL TO
U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT FOR CONVERSATION. WASHINGTON (ADN).
FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY STATE SECRETARY GERHARD BEIL MET IN
WASHINGTON ON WEDNESDAY WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WILLIAM D. ROGERS. THE PRESENT CONDITION AND FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO STATES WERE THE MAIN SUBJECT OF CONSTRUCTIVE
CONVERSATIONS IN WHICH THE GDR AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.,
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PROF. DR. ROLF SIEBER, ALSO PARTICIPATED. BOTH SIDES

OFFERED PROPOSALS FOR DISCUSSION ON HOW ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL, AND POLITICAL RELATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF BOTH STATES CAN BE PROMOTED IN THE COMING MONTHS.

A MEETING OF NUMEROUS INDUSTRIALISTS -- PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS OF AMERICAN FIRMS -- WAS HELD AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE GDR AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AT WHICH A USA/GDR ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WAS FORMED. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY WISH BY THIS MEANS TO CREATE A FURTHER BASIS FOR THE EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC TIES WITH THE GDR AND TO GIVE (THESE TIES) GREATER LONG-TERM STABILITY. THE COMMITTEE HOPES IN ADDITION THAT ADDITIONAL US FIRMS WILL ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE DESIRE FOR AN EXPANSION OF MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TRADE WITH THE GDR."

2. TEXT OF SECOND ARTICLE FOLLOWS: "TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS GROWS BETWEEN THE GDR AND USA. WASHINGTON (ADN). THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCED IN A STATEMENT OF WEDNESDAY THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, RICHARD E. BELL, AND FIRST DEPUTY TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE GDR, FIRST SECRETARY DR. GERHARD BEIL, THAT THE UNITED STATES (AGRICULTURE) DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS THE INTENTION OF THE GDR TO IMPORT GRAIN AND FEED FROM THE U.S. THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EXPRESSED IN THE STATEMENT ITS SATISFACTION WITH THE INTENTIONS OF THE GDR AND CALLED THEM AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF USA-GDR RELATIONS.

THE STATEMENT SAID 'BOTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY BELL AND STATE SECRETARY BEIL CONFIRMED THE INTEREST OF THEIR COUNTRIES IN EXPANDING TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND EMPHASIZED THAT THE UNDERSTANDING THEY HAVE REACHED WILL PROMOTE THE CONTINUATION AND GROWTH OF TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS BETWEEN THE US AND THE GDR. DR. BEIL AND MR. BELL AGREED THAT SUCH TALKS ARE VERY USEFUL AND THEY EXPRESSED THE INTENTION TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS IN THIS CONNECTION REGULARLY IN THE FUTURE'."

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3. THE GDR'S TREATMENT OF THE EVENT PREDICTABLY SUGGESTS THAT THE MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS ON "THE DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS" WAS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE VISIT; AND WE THINK NEUES DEUTSCHLAND WOULD NOT REGRET IT IF READERS DREW THE CONCLUSION THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT MEETING HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE FORMATION OF A US-GDR ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

4. THE ITEM ON AGRICULUTRAL TRADE DESCRIBES
BRIEFLY FOR GDR READERS WHO IS IMPORTING WHAT FROM
WHOM, AND IS OTHERWISE NOTEWORTHLY ONLY FOR THE
DELETION OF THE WORD "INFORMAL" FROM ITS
QUOTATION OF THE THIRD FROM LAST PARAGRAPH OF
THE USDA PRESS RELEASE (STATE 276957). POLANSKY

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